

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: /Cindy M. Keefe/
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

ART BERTOLERO et al.

Application No.: 10/731,683

Filed: December 8, 2003

For: METHODS AND DEVICES FOR
CARDIAC SURGERY

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No.: 3268

Examiner: Christine D. Hopkins

Art Unit: 3735

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER
37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references [in compliance with the requirements of 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)] are enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR §1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no

representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

This IDS is being filed before the mailing date of the final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.

Please charge the IDS fee of \$180 to Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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